UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL O CARPENTERS PENSION FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS WELFARE FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS VACATION FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS ANNUITY FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS APPRENTICESHIP, JOURNEYMAN RETRAINING, EDUCATIONAL AND INDUSTRY FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS CHARITY FUND, and THE NEW YORK CITY AND VICINITY CARPENTERS LABOR MANAGEMENT COOPERATION FUND. by MICHAEL J. FORDE, and PAUL O'BRIEN, as TRUSTEES, and MICHAEL J. FORDE, AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER, DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR NEW YORK CITY AND VICINITY, UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA,

07 CV

CV 10932

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs,

-against-

EAST COAST WINDOWS INSTALLERS INC.,

Defendant.		
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Plaintiffs ("Benefit Funds"), by their attorneys O'Dwyer & Bernstien, LLP, for their Complaint allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE CASE

1. This is an action to confirm and enforce an Arbitrator's Award rendered pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement ("Agreement") between The District Council of New York City and Vicinity of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America ("Union") and East Coast Windows Installers Inc. ("Employer").

JURISDICTION

- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to section 301 of the Labor Management Relations Act ("LMRA"), 29 U.S.C. §185, sections 502(a)(3)(B)(ii), (d)(1), (e) and (g) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. §§1132(a)(3)(B)(ii), (d)(1), (e) and (g), section 515 of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1145, and section 9 of the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. §9.
- 3. Personal jurisdiction is based upon Section 502(e)(2) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1132(e)(2).

VENUE

4. Venue is proper in this district in that Plaintiffs' offices are located in this district.

PARTIES

- 5. At all times relevant herein the Plaintiffs were jointly administered, multi-employer, Taft-Hartley Benefit Funds administered by trustees designated by a union and by employers, established and maintained pursuant to section 302(c)(5) of the LMRA, 29 U.S.C. §186(c)(5). Plaintiffs Forde and O'Brien are fiduciaries of the Benefit Funds within the meaning of ERISA sections 3(21) and 502, 29 U.S.C. §§1002(21) and 1132.
- 6. The Benefit Funds are employee benefit plans within the meaning of sections 3(1) and (3) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1002(1) and (3) and are maintained for the purposes of providing health, medical and related welfare benefits, pension and other benefits to eligible participants and beneficiaries on whose behalf they receive contributions from numerous employers pursuant to collective bargaining agreements between the employers and the Union.
- 7. Upon information and belief defendant is a foreign corporation incorporated under laws of the State of Pennsylvania with a principal place of business located at 1280

Southern Road, York, PA 17403.

8. The defendant is an employer within the meaning of section 3(5) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1002 (5).

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

- 9. Defendant was bound at all relevant times by a collective bargaining agreement with the Union, which, by its terms, became effective July 30, 2006. Said Agreement provides, inter alia, that the defendant shall furnish its books and payroll records when requested by the Benefit Funds for the purpose of conducting an audit to ensure compliance with required benefit fund contributions and for the submission of disputes to final, binding arbitration.
- 10. A dispute arose during the period of the Agreement between the parties when the Employer failed to comply with the Benefit Funds' demands to furnish its books and records for the purpose of conducting an audit.
- 11. Pursuant to the arbitration clause in the Agreement, the dispute was submitted to arbitration to Robert Herzog, the duly designated impartial arbitrator.
- 12. Thereafter, upon due notice to all parties, the arbitrator duly held a hearing and rendered his award, in writing, dated September 21, 2007 determining said dispute. Upon information and belief, a copy of the award was delivered to the defendant (A copy of the award is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A" and made part hereof).
- 13. The arbitrator found that the defendant had failed to comply with the Agreement as it relates to paying fringe benefit monies and directed it to furnish the Plaintiffs with any and all books and records, for the period of August 1, 2006 through September 21, 2007 including but not limited to, the cash disbursement section of the cash book, general ledger, job location records, daily time records and all certified payrolls.

- 14. The arbitrator also found that the defendant was required to pay the funds a sum of \$2,350.00 pursuant to the Agreement, representing costs incurred in the arbitration with interest to accrue at the rate of 10% from the date of the award.
 - 15. The defendant has failed to abide by the award.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against defendant as follows:

- 1. For an order confirming the arbitration award in all respects;
- 2. For entry of judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs ordering defendant and its officers to make available to the Plaintiffs or authorized representatives any and all books and records deemed necessary to conduct an audit including, but not limited to, the cash disbursement section of the cash book, general ledger, job location records, daily time records and all certified payrolls for the period August 1, 2006 through September 21, 2007.
- 3. For entry of judgment in favor of the Benefit Funds and against defendant ordering defendant to pay the Benefit Funds a total sum of \$2,350.00 together with interest at the rate of 10% from the date of the award, pursuant to the arbitrator's award.
 - 4. For attorneys' fees and costs of this action;
 - 5. For such other and further relief as this court may deem just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York November 30, 2007

ANDREW GRABOIS (AG 3192)

O'Dwyer & Bernstien, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiffs

52 Duane Street

New York, NY 10007

(212) 571-7100

EXHIBIT A

DEFAULT

AWARD

1952-

OFFICE OF THE IMPARTIAL ARBITRATOR

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In The Matter Of The Arbitration

between

New York City District Council of Carpenters Pension Fund, New York City District Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund, New York City District Council of Carpenters Vacation Fund, New York City District Council of Carpenters Annuity Fund, New York City District Council of Carpenters Apprenticeship, Journeyman Retraining, Educational and Industry Fund, New York City District Council of Carpenters Charity Fund, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America Fund, by Michael J. Forde and Paul O'Brien, as Trustees and The New York City and Vicinity Carpenters Labor-Management Corporation

And

Michael J. Forde, as Executive Secretary-Treasurer, District Council for New York City and Vicinity, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

(Petitioners)

-and-

East Coast Window Installers

(Employer)

BEFORE: Robert Herzog, Esq.

East Coast Window Installers (hereinafter referred to as the "Employer") signed an agreement entitled "Subcontractor Agreement To Be Bound By The Project Labor Agreement Covering Specified Construction Work Under The Capital Improvement And Restructuring Programs (2005-2009) Between New York City School Construction Authority And Building And Construction Trades Council Of Greater New York And Vicinity." The agreement, dated July 28, 2006 contains the following language: "Subcontractor acknowledges that this Subcontract includes the Project Labor Agreement ... between New York City School Construction

Authority and Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York and Vicinity, with its collective bargaining agreements (PLA). Subcontractor hereby consents to the terms of the PLA as a signatory, and agrees it is bound by the PLA" The Employer also signed a "Subcontractor Affidavit of Project Labor Agreement Solicitation No: SCA05-03887D-1." The affidavit, dated July 30, 2006, in part, contains the following language: "East Coast Window Installers shall be bound by the provisions of the Project Labor Agreement {between the New York City School Construction Authority and Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York and Vicinity} executed on the 10th of November, 2004 with respect to all Work to be performed under this solicitation." The referenced Project Labor Agreement, in turn, states in Article 11, Section B:

The Contractor {East Coast Window Installers} agrees to be bound by the written terms of the legally-established jointly trusteed Trust Agreements specifying the detailed basis on which payments are to be paid into, and benefits paid out of, such Trust Funds but only with regard to Program Work done under this Agreement and only for those employees to whom this Agreement requires such benefit payments.

The Funds identified in the caption above are such Trust Funds encompassed by Article 11, Section B.

Trust documents and Collective Bargaining Agreements that are incorporated by reference by the Trust documents provide for arbitration of disputes before the undersigned Arbitrator as Impartial Arbitrator, and in which the Employer has therein agreed, for the duration of the work covered by the above-identified agreement and affidavit, to pay contributions toward employee benefit funds (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Funds"). The Petitioners, as beneficiaries of the Trust documents and incorporated by reference documents, have standing before the Arbitrator. In accordance therewith, the Petitioners, by August 24,

2007 and August 27, 2007 dated Notices of Intention to Arbitrate, demanded arbitration. The Petitioners allege the Employer failed to permit the Funds to conduct an audit of its books and records for the period of August 1, 2006 through to date to determine whether it is in compliance with its obligation to contribute to the Funds. A Notice of Hearing dated August 24, 2007 advised the Employer and the Petitioners that the arbitration hearing was scheduled for September 12, 2007.

The Notice of Hearing was sent to the Employer by regular and certified mail. A United States Postal Service Certified Mail Return Receipt evidences delivery of the Notice of Hearing to the Employer.

On September 12, 2007, at the place and time designated by the aforesaid Notice of Hearing, Steven Kasarda, Esq. appeared on behalf of the Petitioners. Despite the Employer having been sent notice of the proceeding and the claim against it, no appearance on its behalf was made. Also, no written, mutually agreed upon waiver by the parties to adjourn the proceeding, as required by the Collective Bargaining Agreement, was presented. The arbitration proceeded as a Default Hearing. Full opportunity was afforded the parties present to be heard, to offer evidence, and to examine witnesses. The Petitioners thereupon presented their proofs to the Arbitrator.

The uncontroverted testimony and evidence established that:

- During the August 1, 2006 to date period, the Employer was bound to Fringe Benefit Trust Funds documents.
- The Fringe Benefit Trust Funds documents obligated the Employer to make certain payments to the Fringe Benefit Trust Funds on behalf of all its carpenter employees pursuant to schedules.
- Fringe Benefit Trust Fund documents authorized the Funds to conduct an audit of the Employer's books and records in order to verify that all the required contributions were made to each of the aforesaid Fringe Benefit Trust Funds maintained by the Funds.
- In accordance with this auditing provision, an accountant, employed by the Funds, sought to conduct an audit of the Employer's books and records. In violation of this auditing provision, the Employer did not consent to an audit of the Employer's books and records.

AWARD

Based upon the substantial and credible evidence of the case as a whole:

1. East Coast Window Installers is in violation of the July 28, 2006 Subcontractor Agreement and the July 30, 2006 Subcontractor Affidavit of Project Labor Agreement to which it is the signatory to both, the Project Labor Agreement, and the Fringe Benefit Trust Fund documents;

- 2. East Coast Window Installers is ordered to permit and facilitate the Funds conducting an audit of its certified payrolls or any other payroll records for work performed for the New York City School Construction Authority for the period of August 1, 2006 through to date to determine whether it is in compliance with its obligations to contribute to the Funds;
- 3. East Coast Window Installers shall pay to the Funds forthwith the Petitioners' counsel's fees, the undersigned Arbitrator's fee, and all associated court costs in the

 Court Costs
 \$ 350.00

 Attorney's Fee
 1,500.00

 Arbitrator's Fee
 500.00

 TOTAL
 \$2,350.00

4. East Coast Window Installers shall pay to the District Council Carpenters Benefit Funds the aggregate amount of two thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$2,350.00) with interest to accrue at the rate of 10% from the date of this Award.

Dated: September 21, 2007

following amounts:

Arbitrator

State of New York)
County of Rockland)

I, Robert Herzog, do hereby affirm upon my oath as Arbitrator that I am the individual described in and who executed this instrument, which is my Award.

Dated: September 21, 2007

Arbitrator

To: East Coast Window Installers
Attn: Mr. John Walter, President
2680 Southern Road
York, Pennsylvania 17403

East Coast Window Installers Attn: Mr. John Walter, President 1280 Southern Road York, Pennsylvania 17403

Steven Kasarda, Esq.
New York City District Council Carpenters Benefit Funds
395 Hudson Street
New York, New York 10014
New York 10014